1	2	3	4
14.	Uttar Pradesh	1155	1198.3
15.	West Bengal	12	12.0
16.	Others	10	6.3
	All India	2750	2718.6

[English]

Production Cost of Coconut

622. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the method being adopted by the Government to collect the data to fix the cost of production of the coconut;

(b) whether the Government have assessed the cost of production of coconut during this year and the past three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the data used and the criteria followed in ascertaining the cost of production during each of these years;

(e) whether the support price was being fixed on the basis of cost of production and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the support price fixed during each of these years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e). The data on cost of production collected under "Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Production of Principal Crops in India" are used by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in recommending the minimum support prices. The scheme deals with only the field and coconut being a perennial crop is currently not covered. However, a decision has now been taken to conduct a special study on cost of production of coconut in Kerala from 1997-98.

While recommending the minimum support prices, the C.A.C.P., inter-alia, takes into account several factors like demand and supply, trends in market prices, inter-crop price parity, international market price situation, effect on industrial cost structure, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, terms of trade, etc.

(f) The minimum support prices of Copra fixed during the last four years are as under :

(Rs. per quintal)

Year	Million Copra	Ball Copra
1993	2150	2350
1994	2350	2575
1995	2500	2725
1996	2500	2725

National Poultry Development Board

623. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set a National Poultry Development Board in the country; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b). A proposal to constitute a National Poultry Development Board is under the consideration of Government. Details are being worked out in consultation with State Governments and other Departments of the Government of India.

Inter-State Council

624. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Inter-State council in its recent meeting held in October has decided to frame guidelines for the imposition of President Rule under Article 356 of the Constitution;

(b) if so, whether the guidelines have since been worked out; and

(c) if not, the time by which the same would be worked out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The issue of Emergency Provisions and Article 356 was discussed in the second meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 15.10.1996 and it was decided that a Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council would examine, among others, the issue of Emergency Provisions including Article 356 in detail and submit its report within three months of its constitution. This report of the Standing Committee shall be discussed in the next meeting of the Inter-State Council after which the views of the Council shall be forwarded to the Government for consideration and further necessary action. The constitution of the Standing Committee is under consideration.

Protected Forest Areas

625. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tripura Government had sent proposal to dereserve the protected forest areas and a part of